

PRESS RELEASE

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Madison, Wisconsin -- Erik C. Peterson, United States Attorney for the Western District of Wisconsin, announced that Jason W. DeAlmeida, 32, Madison, Wisconsin, a citizen of Australia, was sentenced today by U.S. District Judge John C. Shabaz to 97 months for possession of child pornography. DeAlmeida pleaded guilty to this charge on June 28, 2007.

The evidence showed that DeAlmeida collected thousands of images and hundreds of videos of child pornography over the course of a couple of years. DeAlmeida's sentence was enhanced based on the high number of images he possessed and the fact that some of the images were sadistic in nature.

DeAlmeida's prison term is to be followed by a lifetime term of supervised release. Judge Shabaz noted that life supervision was necessary to control the risk DeAlmeida poses to the community.

This case is being brought as part of Project Safe Childhood. In February 2006, Attorney General Alberto R. Gonzales launched Project Safe Childhood, a nationwide initiative designed to protect children from online exploitation and abuse. Led by the United States Attorneys' Offices, Project Safe Childhood marshals federal, state and

local resources to better locate, apprehend, and prosecute individuals who exploit children via the Internet, as well as identify and rescue victims. For more information about Project Safe Childhood, please visit www.projectsafecchildhood.gov/.

The charges against DeAlmeida were the result of an investigation conducted by the Wisconsin Department of Justice, Division of Criminal Investigation. The prosecution of the case has been handled by Assistant U.S. Attorney Laura A. Przybylinski Finn.

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